

News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY ELEVATES THREAT LEVEL TO HIGH

Dover- Secretary of the Department of Public Safety, James L. Ford, and Delaware Homeland Security Advisor Phillip Cabaud announced that the State of Delaware, in accordance with the National Office of Homeland Security, is elevating the state's threat level from "Elevated" (yellow) to "High" (orange).

Ford said the announcement is intended to enhance security for Delaware citizens. He said the announcement is not meant to direct the public to alter their daily lives, rather to heighten awareness of measures that will aid in the continuation of the quality of life that we have come to enjoy.

Ford and Cabaud said that recent communication with Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge convinced them that the state should join and support the nation in this elevated threat level announcement. He said Ridge informed them that there were multiple credible sources indicating that there is an increased risk of domestic attacks in the United States.

Although no region or type of attack is specified, the possible areas of concern include energy, transportation and finance. There is no known threat to Delaware at this time.

In announcing the heightened threat level, Ford and Cabaud said that Delaware is fortunate that a new set of Homeland Security Threat Level Guidelines is completed and available to the public. The guidelines include recommended actions for individuals, families, communities, schools, businesses and government entities according to the perceived threat level.

The guidelines contain a User's Guide that outlines the purpose and describes the five threat levels and the appropriate steps to be taken at each level.

The entire Homeland Security Threat Level Guidelines document can be accessed on the Delaware Emergency Management Agency web site at <http://www.state.de.us/dema/pages/news.htm>.

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